

# S.W.A.G Solid Waste Advocacy Group

[www.swagcou.com](http://www.swagcou.com)

Keep  
Our Current Bag System  
No Roll Carts



Vote Yes

Proposition 1  
March 15<sup>th</sup>

Facebook "Do We Really Want  
Trash Roll Carts in Columbia?"

Why did city administration hire a consultant, MSW, to do a Cost of Service Report and provide that consultant with benchmark cities – but ONLY cities that have roll carts?

### 1.5.2 BENCHMARKING CITIES

The City of Columbia identified 10 cities with roughly comparable populations and at least some similarities between solid waste management systems. These are shown in Table 1-5.

**Table 1-5 Benchmark Cities**

City	2012 Population	Housing Units (2010)
Lexington-Fayette County, KY	305,489	134,977
Peoria, AZ	159,789	63,343
Savannah, GA	142,022	62,289
McAllen, TX	134,719	47,784
Cedar Rapids, IA	128,119	57,316
Springfield, IL	117,126	55,822
Norman, OK	115,562	49,137
Murfreesboro, TN	114,038	44,779
<b>Columbia, MO</b>	<b>113,225</b>	<b>47,069</b>
Davenport, IA	101,363	44,394
Lee's Summit, MO	92,468	35,360

Why did city administration  
INSTRUCT that consultant to  
 calculate the cost of implementing  
 roll carts using ONLY one roll cart  
per household...

While at the same time attendees at  
 six ward meetings were told that we  
 would have two roll carts per  
 household

– one for trash and one for  
 recycling?

**Table 2-19 Comparison of Equipment Capital Cost**

	Current System	Automated Rollcart
Number of Trucks		
Active	8	7
<u>Spare</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
Total	10	9
Number of Rollcarts	0	33,483
Capital Cost per Unit		
Trucks	\$265,000	\$247,000
Curotto Can	N/A	\$35,000
Rollcarts 90 gal including A&D	N/A	\$55
Total Capital Cost		
Trucks	\$2,650,000	\$2,223,000
Curotto Can	\$0	\$490,000
Rollcarts <b>1 per household</b>	\$0	\$1,841,565
<b>Total Capital Costs</b>	<b>\$2,650,000</b>	<b>\$4,554,565</b>

2nd Roll Cart/Household

\$1,841,565

Total Capital Costs

\$6,396,130

Why has city administration repeatedly understated the cost of implementing roll carts?

"Matthes said . . . the switch would cost the city an estimated \$5.6 million, spread out over several years."

*Tribune, July 30, 2015*

(Steve)"Sapp. . . said a figure commonly thrown out is \$5.6m, of which the majority is purchase of roll carts and other equipment."

*Tribune, Aug 16, 2015*

*From City Manager and Staff 8/17/2015 report to Council*

## Option II                      PAYT carts

“If given direction to proceed with a fully automated (roll cart) PAYT collection system, budget amendments would be prepared for equipment (est. \$1.5 million sufficient trucks for transition and \$1.9 million for roll carts to be ordered in 2016 for later implementation.

Residential Waste Collection is the **ONLY** sector of Solid Waste that makes a Profit every year

**Table 2-9 Revenue Sufficiency Under Existing Rates, Test Year 2015 (\$1,000)**

Description	Revenue Requirement	Rate Revenues	Revenue Surplus/(Deficit)	Required Rate Increase (Decrease)
Residential Refuse and Recycling	\$7,796	\$8,497	\$701	- 8.2%
Total Commercial	\$4,466	\$2,886	(\$1,580)	54.7%
Roll-Off	\$1,908	\$1,509	(\$398)	26.4%
Landfill	\$3,153	\$3,031	(\$122)	4.0%
Drop-Off Recycling	0	0	0	0.0%
Community Improvement District	321	241	(80)	33.3%
University	1,062	458	(604)	131.9%
<b>Total System</b>	<b>\$18,707</b>	<b>\$16,622</b>	<b>(\$2,084)</b>	<b>12.5%</b>

# Cost of Roll Carts

1. How are we going to pay for implementation of roll carts?
2. Does the City have that much set aside, or will it borrow funds?
3. What true savings are there?

# Added Costs – Roll Cart Administration

4. What Added Costs will the city have for Roll Carts?

Storage

Distribution

Maintenance

Tracking

Billing Complexity

Ordinance Enforcement



# Reasons Given for Implementing Roll Carts

High Worker Turnover

"Low" Recycling Rate

High Workers Compensation

# High Worker Turnover

## Strategic Priorities FY 2016 - FY 2019

### \* **Economy (*Jobs that Support Families*)**

- **Social Equity (*Improving the Odds for Success*)**
- **Public Safety (*Safe Wherever You Live, Work, Learn or Play*)**
- **Infrastructure (*Connecting the Community*)**
- **Operational Excellence**

# Jobs that Support Families

## Why It Is Important:

- **Poverty is increasing in Columbia, especially among blacks**
- **Violence and other conditions can tip the balance against success**
- **\$10.55/hour is the 1968 minimum wage equivalent compared to \$7.65 per hour today**
- **Black households make 60 cents on the dollar compared to white households**

# Residential Waste Collection Workers



# High Worker Turnover

1. Why is a Commercial Drivers License required before employees on our trash trucks can be full-time, permanent with benefits?
2. Why hasn't city administration restructured job specifications so more workers on the trash trucks can be classified as full-time permanent?

# High Worker Turnover

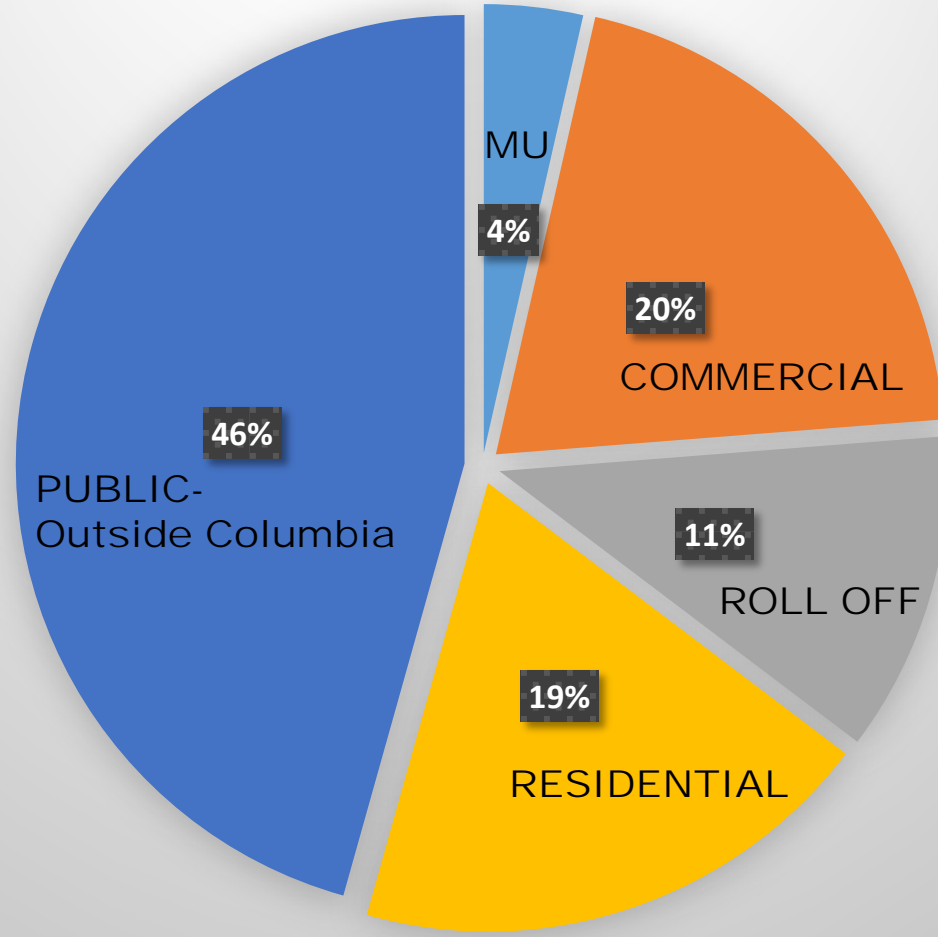
3. Why are salaries so low for workers on our trash trucks?

Part - time, temporary workers,  
without benefits, start at \$11.25 and  
those who have a CDL start at just \$13.78

4. Why not use some of the profits  
from residential waste collection to increase wages?

2015 Federal Poverty Guideline \$12.00/hour for family of 4

# Landfill Tonnage 2015



What Initiatives  
have been  
taken to  
encourage  
recycling by  
those using our  
landfill  
Other than  
RESIDENTIAL?

# "Low" Recycling Rate

Yard waste = 25% by weight  
of recycling stream

*Michigan State University Extension, [Msue.anr.msu.edu/news/yardwasteban](https://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/yardwasteban)*

Count yard waste with our 17%

Columbia = 42% Recycling Rate



# Current Dual Stream Recycling

Fiber  
Separate  
from  
Other Recyclables



# Single Stream Recycling

All  
Recyclables  
Together



# "Low" Recycling Rate

1. With Roll Carts, how many more workers will be required to separate recyclables and at what cost?
2. What are the implications for the MRF facility – is part of the planned expansion of our MRF due to anticipated single stream recycling?
3. How will prevention of injuries to workers who are sorting paper and cardboard imbedded with glass be addressed?



4. What is the estimated loss of sale of recyclables due contamination?
5. What is the estimated percentage of recycled items placed in roll carts that will end up in the landfill?
6. Why take a step backward with single stream recycling when Columbians are separating fiber from other recyclables now?

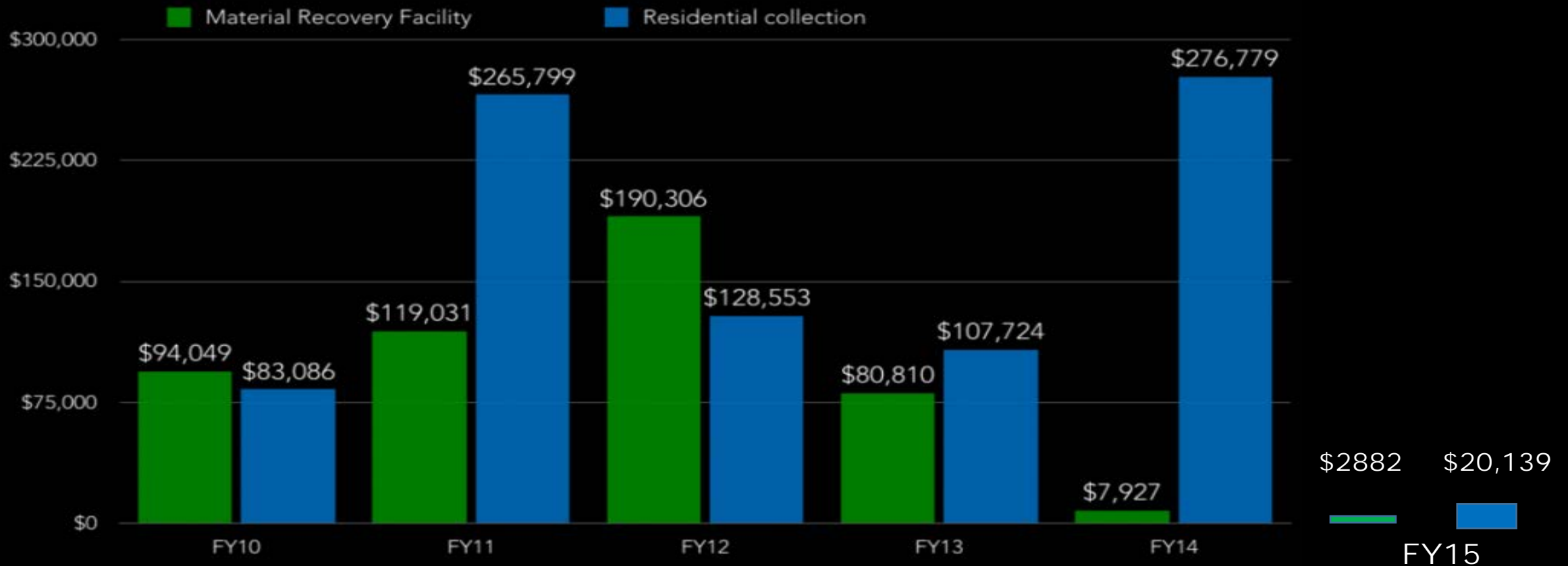




# A Policy Change from Speed to Safety

RESIDENTIAL & MATERIAL RECOVERY FACILITY

## WORKERS' COMPENSATION



# Solutions Without Roll Carts

## High Worker Turnover

Better Pay

Job Restructuring

## “Low” Recycling Rate

Current Dual stream recycling =

Highest Quantity of Usable Recyclables

Greatest Value of Recyclables

## High Workers Compensation

Safety Policy / Pay Incentives

# Keep Our Current Trash System

## Vote Yes

Proposition 1  
March 15<sup>th</sup>

## No Roll Carts

For more info

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# City of Columbia Workers' Compensation Claims by Cause Descriptors Fiscal Year 2014

## Solid Waste – Residential

Animal or Insect Bites	1	\$	120.75
Burn/Exposure	1	\$	2,010.00
Cut/Puncture	3	\$	918.12
Slip/Fall	5	\$	49,868.88
Sprain/Strain	14	\$	129,463.40
Struck By	2	\$	2,046.08



# In Compensation and Working Conditions

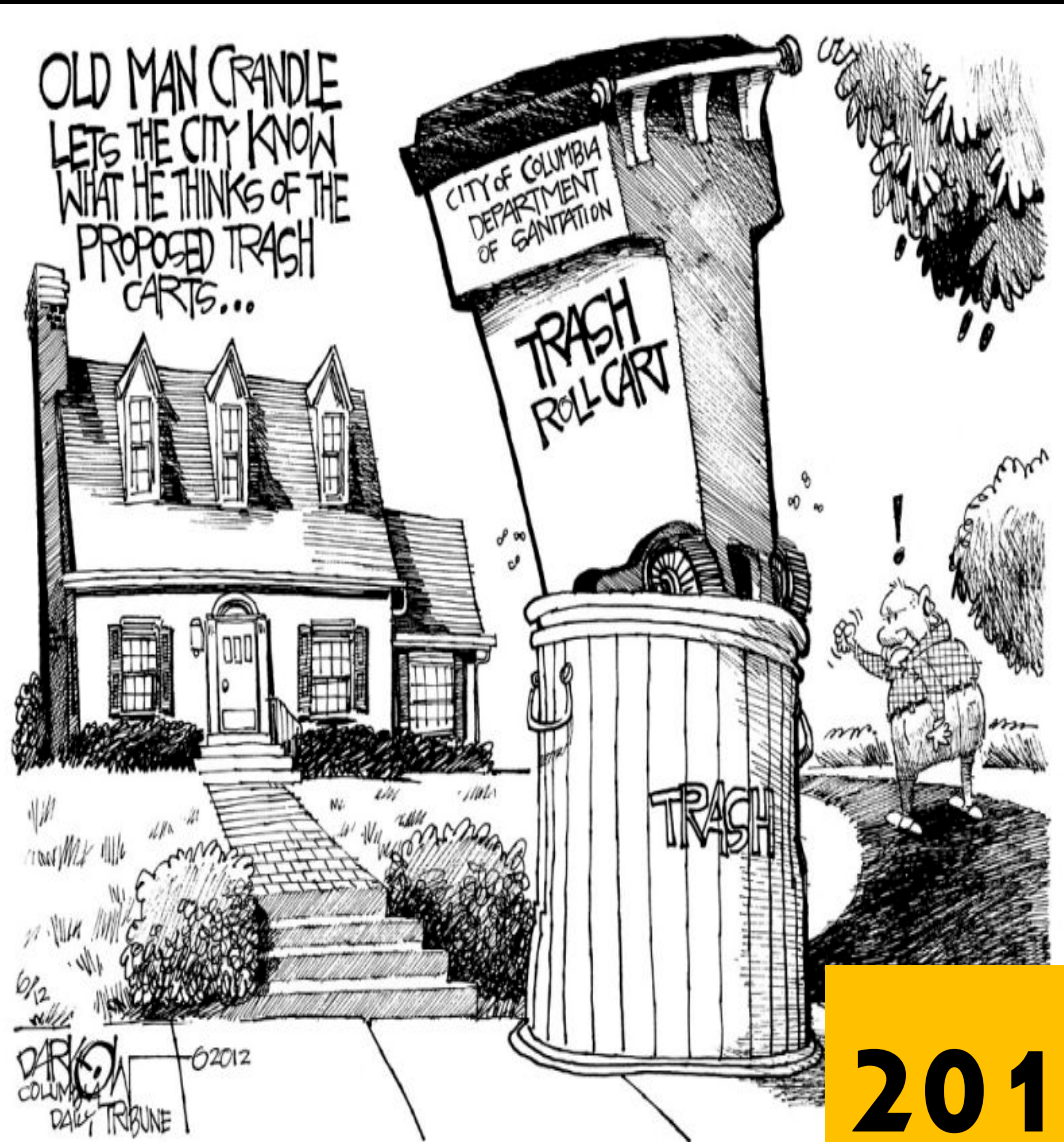
Summer 1997 pg 59

Trash Collection Workers are NOT EVEN LISTED

"Occupations with largest number of fatalities, rates, relative risks,  
1995"

"Occupations with Largest number of injuries and illness with days  
away from work to recuperate, 1994"

# Proposition 1 Has Been Discussed for Years



2012

## "City Council scraps roll cart plan"

-11/06/2012 Columbia Daily

Tribune



2015

Permission by Columbia Daily Tribune

**CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI**

**SOLID WASTE COST OF SERVICE AND RATE  
RECOMMENDATION**  
*FY15 Update*



**FINAL REPORT**

June 26, 2015

